

THE SOU'WESTER

Vol. XCVI. NO. 6



TV love in all its perfection.

See Page 6

November 4, 2009

The Weekly Student Newspaper of Rhodes College

Weekly Weather

Thursday, November 5

Sunny
63°



Friday, November 6

Sunny
65°



Saturday, November 7

Mostly sunny
69°



Sunday, November 8

Partly cloudy
68°



Monday, November 9

Partly cloudy
66°



Tuesday, November 10

Rain storms
66°



Wednesday, November 11

Rain storms
64°



Courtesy of weather.com

Rhodes students go to 'battle'

By Jasmine Gilstrap

On Saturday, October 24, Murray State University became both the destination and opponent for the five Rhodes students selected to participate in the event for the day- IBM's "Battle of the Brains."

Each year, IBM, a company based on utilizing information technology, sponsors the Association for Computing Machinery International Collegiate Programming Contest, a competition which challenges the top students in the computer science field. The annual contest is comprised of several levels of competition including the regional level event, "Battle of the Brains."

The contest challenges the three-person teams to eight complex, real-world computer problems, forcing the participants to use their knowledge of computer programming. The team with the most correct solutions after the five-hour period wins.

Students from Murray State University as well as from the University of Evansville and Union University competed against Rhodes students for the regional title. The teams from Rhodes was comprised of students Matthew Isom, 2011, Tierney Jackson, 2010, Jonathan Mervine, 2011, Daniel Smith, 2011 and Brian Yuan, 2011. The teams' workspace consisted of computers surrounded by stacks of reference books which aided the students throughout the competition and acted as the driving force.

"The five-hour-long competition was pretty intense, with all of the teams working right up until the last second," said Isom. "This sort of challenge is really motivating."

The University of Evansville's Orange team took home the first place prize having completed four problems correctly. Rhodes' Red and Black teams both completed three problems during the five-hour contest. Both teams are ranked in the 120s out of the 142 teams participating nationwide. Despite the loss at Murray, the teams are grateful for the experience and plan on participating in next year's event.

"Despite our fierce competition, the atmosphere afterwards was quite friendly, with us talking to our rivals about our experiences," said Isom. "It's really interesting to see all the like-minded people from other universities though, and for our small school to be able to field a team that is competitive with the larger ones. Morale was high on the long trip back, and we are excited about preparing for the next competition."

Senior gift goes green

NeNe Bafford
News Editor

The Rhodes Senior Gift has been a tradition at Rhodes since the 1920s and this year, the Class of 2010 hopes to surpass the amount of money raised by any senior class thus far. There are two main purposes for the senior gift. One purpose is to create the opportunity for students to give back to the college.

"Rhodes doesn't just endow students with a fabulous education; it also provides an incredibly supportive social environment for us for the rest of our lives. The senior gift is a great way to support this environment," said Senior, Whitney Faust.

The second purpose allows the Class of 2010 to create a lasting memory at Rhodes.

"Future students will be able to see our gift on campus and know that the Class of 2010 really cares about Rhodes," said Faust.

On October 23, 2009 the senior class gathered in the Lynx Lair to learn more about the senior gift. This event is known as "The Unveiling of the Senior Gift" and was the official kickoff for the fundraising season. The Class of 2010 has chosen to focus the gift on helping Rhodes become more "green," so it is possible that the money raised will help fund items, like solar panels and a water collection system. The Class of 2010 also hopes to extend the community garden.

The goal is for this year's senior class is \$4000, which will be more than any other class has pledged. As of now, Class of 2010 has pledged \$2000.

"At the rate we are going now, we should have no problem meeting our goal of \$4000," said Faust.

The Senior Gift Committee will hold a "Personal Ask Week," during November 2-November 8. This is a time when the members will discuss giving with their classmates. Gifts start at \$5 and the highest level gift is known as the "Red and Black Society," which involves a \$250 commitment to be completed by June of 2011. Eight seniors have already

Zetland brings new perspective to economy

By Anna Meyerrose
Opinion Editor

David Zetland, who emphasizes human behavior rather than strictly the mathematical aspect of economics, was a refreshing, colorful contrast to the stereotypical, pessimistic view often held of economists. Zetland recently visited Rhodes College, drawn here by his connections with Rhodes Economics Professor Art Carden. While here, Zetland gave a lecture on "Personal, Communal, and Political Dimensions of Sustainability".

Currently a professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics at University of California, Berkeley, David Zetland is an S.C. Ciriacy-Wantrup Postdoctoral Fellow in Natural Resource Economics and Political Economy and is one of the leading experts on the economics of water, property rights, and sustainability. In the class he teaches at UC Berkeley, Zetland says that he aims toward teaching is-

ues that are relevant to the world so that his students will have ideas about how to apply economics to the real world.

One of the principal areas in which he focuses his studies is on the economics of water and, more generally, environmental sustainability. In fact, Zetland has his own blog, "aguanomics", that discusses various aspects of this concept of water economics. During our talk, Zetland elaborated on the concept of the economics of water, focusing in particular on issues of water shortages.

Zetland emphasized the importance of having institutions in order to made equitable water distribution possible. According to Zetland, everyone has a basic human right to a certain amount of water, but then, beyond a point, everyone should have to pay for excess water used (such as that used in taking long showers, watering one's lawn, etc). However, essentially, he argues water shortages arise

because there is not enough incentive to save water due to the fact that the true value of the water is not reflected in its cost.

Zetland goes on to offer several solutions to the problem of water shortages. The first of such is desalination; however, this is far too expensive of an alternative. As an example, Zetland uses Saudi Arabia, where they are "turning oil into water, literally" by using their wealth to fund desalination plants.

Since this is too expensive a solution, Zetland argues instead that the answer to many of the problems of water shortage is simply to raise the price of water. This concept goes along with the basic economic law of demand: if something is more expensive, people will consume less of it. Furthermore, Zetland blamed many of the problems having to do with water on poor planning by various governmental officials.

"Despite the risks of business as usual, water bureaucrats, politicians and developers continue to defend a status quo management strategy that serves their interests, but not those of citizens," says Zetland in one of his blogs, "My First Publication!" found on aguanomics.com.

At his lecture that same night, which was open to all Rhodes students, Zetland talked first about his beliefs about economics in general, and then later

SOME WATER
FOR FREE ...



PAY FOR
MORE

aguanomics.com

Zetland, continued on Page 4

Senior Gift, continued on Page 5

Polanski and celebrity freedom

By Jake Groves
Staff Writer

Recently, Swiss police arrested Roman Polanski on charges filed in the United States thirty years ago. The Academy Award winning director turned fugitive pleaded guilty to a US court in 1978 before fleeing the country to his native France. Now, Polanski faces jail time in Switzerland and possibly extradition to the US to receive his pending charges.

Mr. Polanski, director of "Rosemary's Baby" (1968) and "The Pianist" (2002), administered drugs to a thirteen year old girl and had sex with her in the late 1970's and since has directed three Oscar-nominated films and received numerous personal accolades.

Mr. Polanski's situation is all too familiar to the American bystander with a keen eye for pop culture. Over the years, cases like Mr. Polanski's have pitted justice against popularity and revealed the gap between normal and celebrity freedom.

It is not that Mr. Polanski is impudent; he does not have to be. Associations such as the

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), who congratulated Polanski with an award and even broadcast the fugitive's acceptance speech, have often taunted the justice system. The NFL and other sports organizations currently employ several convicted felons and still more players with pending charges.

This message is a dubious one for all the youth who idolize such public figures. Every Monday night, little Jeffrey sits in front of the television screen to cheer on a quarter back that will stand trial for drunk-driving charges the next morning. Such a sight creates a complex for little Jeffrey, who grows up and cannot understand why he's in jail after he wrecks his car and kills two innocent passengers.

It is not that the NFL, AMPAS and other entities that condone celebrity misconduct try to upset the justice system on purpose. More likely their actions reflect an attempt to stay afloat by appeasing public opinion. In other words, if the NFL and AMPAS were more draconian they would suffer setbacks in ratings and many other

areas. This leaves the viewers happy while the court system scrambles to retain order.

It is unsure whether abetting organizations such as AMPAS or the public is to blame. Human nature is a more likely culprit, specifically humans' insatiable interest in misconduct and nonconformity. Satisfying such an inherent craving could create quasi-peace where people indulge all their vile impulses vicariously through celebrities instead of carrying them out in real life. Or such laxity could engender increased delinquency amongst viewers across the nation and the world.

Mr. Polanski's act will never cause mass hysteria, where everyone reaches forty and suddenly starts seeking out Lolita counterparts. This is due to the simple fact that most people do not even know who Roman Polanski is. However, court lassitude towards celebrities is not fostering wholesome lifestyles for a new generation of youngsters who, with the advent of various technological advances, are more exposed to celebrity antics than ever before.

Congress flexes muscle on tobacco

By Will Smith
Staff Writer

If you are a consumer of tobacco products (and even if you are not), take notice: earlier this summer, Congress passed the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. This law, which took effect on September 22, granted the FDA more authority to regulate tobacco companies by allowing the FDA Secretary to restrict the "sale or distribution of tobacco products if appropriate for the protection of the public health". Though many people are praising this new law as a great step forward in the anti-smoking campaign, the extent to which it allows the government to regulate the tobacco industry is truly disturbing.

The main goal of this law, aside from increasing the power the government has over tobacco companies, is to prevent young people from taking up smoking; this is to be primarily accomplished through the ban on flavored cigarettes. The reasoning is that younger people are more likely to start smoking flavored cigarettes because they are unused to the regular flavor of tobacco; so, if flavored cigarettes are illegal, young people will be less likely to start smoking. Cigarettes that count as flavored include any cigarettes with fruit, candy, clove, or cinnamon flavors. Banning flavored cigarettes is completely ridiculous. Young people smoked before flavored cigarettes became widely available, and they will continue to do so. As long as we are trying to prevent from engaging in a "bad habit," why don't we go ahead and ban all fruit-flavored alcoholic drinks as well? If people want to smoke flavored tobacco, they ought to be able to do so. Besides, as we know, attempts to ban products for which there is a strong enough demand only leads to a black market for this good. Whether the demand for flavored cigarettes is high enough that a black market will emerge is unknown, but my guess is that people will still be able to get them. Trying to prevent young people from smoking is a good thing, but to do it with the force of government is wrong; a more effective way is through social pressure and education.

Menthol cigarettes are curiously exempt from the ban on flavored cigarettes. This is be-

cause Phillip Morris, the country's biggest producer of menthol cigarettes, heavily lobbied lawmakers to write the bill so that it would be beneficial to them. A major reason that people smoke menthols and other flavored cigarettes is because they do not like the full-bodied, straight-up tobacco taste of regular cigarettes. Menthols compete with other flavored cigarettes in this respect, so it was in Phillip Morris' interest that all other flavored cigarettes be banned. In doing this, Phillip Morris used the police power of government to hurt its competitors and benefit itself. This kind of "cooperation" is unacceptable, regardless of who does it. This behavior undermines the market system and hurts everyone outside of the collaborators. Just because the cultural tide is against smoking and Phillip Morris is working against this, does not mean their actions are justified.

In addition to the ban on flavored cigarettes, the other regulations placed on the tobacco industry give the government so much power and influence that the government might as well own the tobacco companies. Though the new regulations are intended to provide quality control, it is likely that the government will try to use them to harass the tobacco companies. The more the anti-smoking movement grows in influence, the more it will use the power of government to regulate and restrict the tobacco companies, with the ultimate goal of placing such severe burdens on them that the result will be reduction in both supply and demand. The new powers wielded by the FDA will only speed up this process.

Many argue that the government has a legitimate interest in regulating tobacco companies because their products are especially unhealthy. It is perfectly sensible for the FDA to regulate food and medicine, the argument goes, but it is especially sensible that it be able to regulate tobacco companies because tobacco smoke harms people who choose not to smoke. They will also argue that it is legitimate to regulate tobacco because people who use tobacco products impose a massive negative externality on others, namely in health care costs. The first argument has merit, while the second one is at best dubious; for one thing, if we were to impose a penalty on all activi-

ties which were to cause a negative externality, we would find an unacceptable number of activities restricted.

So if these regulations go too far, then what are acceptable regulations? First of all, there should be an age requirement to purchase tobacco, health warnings on packages, and some sort of ingredient control. Whether any of this ought to be done by the government, however, is up for debate. The fact that tobacco smoke harms non-smokers makes it legitimate for the government to regulate smoking in public places, but only public places that are owned by the government.

This law is bad enough, but the whole anti-smoking movement in this country reeks of paternalism. Yes, as a society and as individuals we would be better off the less smoking there is, and we should encourage people to not smoke. Where this encouragement becomes less like encouragement is when the government uses its power to force people, especially when it is aimed at hindering or preventing people from doing something for their own good. Much of the anti-smoking rhetoric is not just about looking out for non-smokers' health, but also has a very judgmental, "you-are-doing-something bad for you and we're going to stop you" aspect to it. It is hard to criticize this since smoking is indeed unhealthy. Tobacco smoke does harm smokers, but by choosing to smoke, the smoker is exercising his or her own self-ownership. The paternalist does not care about self-ownership; the paternalist assumes themselves to be in the best position to dictate to others how to live their lives and is ready to force others to do as they say, all in the cause for the other's benefit. The paternalist sentiment is so blatantly, willfully ignorant of reality and disrespectful of freedom and self-ownership that it must be rejected.

At its core, this situation is not just about smoking and the tobacco industry; it concerns politicians' lust for power, business' desire to use the government to protect their interests and hurt its competitors, and the desire of paternalists to use government to force people to do "what's best for them". The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act is simply an improper, unacceptable use of government power.

THE SOU'WESTER

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As the official newspaper of Rhodes College, *The Sou'wester* is produced entirely by students on staff. It functions independently of faculty and administration. The newspaper is published weekly throughout the fall and spring semesters, except during exam periods and breaks.

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All staff editorials published in *The Sou'wester* represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board composed of section editors and executive editors. Opinions expressed in opinion columns and letters-to-the-editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The Sou'wester* Editorial Board. Letters-to-the-editor are encouraged, but cannot exceed 350 words; all letters must be signed and will be edited for clarity.

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ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

Posters to launch non-religious campaign in NYC

By Rekha Blackerby

"A million New Yorkers are good without God. Are you?" Anyone riding the New York subways in the near future will be confronted with posters asking this very question. The Big Apple Coalition of Reason (CoR) will begin producing these posters starting October 26 with hopes of spreading awareness about those without a religion and providing a social base for atheists in New York; an anonymous donor funded this \$25,000 campaign. On their website, CoR lays out their general goals and mission—namely, to teach others that one can be good and moral without having religion and also to promote "wider acceptance of a more rational and realistic view of the universe...through awareness of the cause and its supporters". The best way to raise awareness is to advertise in a busy, well-populated area. With five million subway riders every day, the New York transit system seemed a logical place to start. Plans have been made according to the website to place the ads in various cities, from South Carolina all the way to California.

Several atheist, humanist, and agnostic organizations comprise the Big Apple CoR, including the New York Center for Inquiry, Secular Humanist Society of New York, and the New York Society for Ethical Culture. Colleges in the New York City area are supporting the effort, too. Hunter College, New York University, and Stony Brook University have all begun efforts to promote freethinking and the creation of student support groups.

According to the New York Metro Transit Authority, the posters are not violating any guidelines for advertisements, which mostly include no vulgarity, nudity, or profanity. The ads are also within the First Amendment for

the free exercise of religion and speech (though does it count as a religion if technically "no religion" is how atheists are classified?). The MTA writes their rules so as to be respectful and non-biased towards any particular person or group. Legally, these posters are not crossing boundaries, though some might have other objections to them.

From a critical standpoint, these posters may not have the intended effect the Big Apple CoR has in mind firstly because of the actual wording of the posters. Though seemingly benign, their word choice was poor. The group insists that they are "conciliatory towards all religions", yet they chose to structure their ads so that they are comparing themselves to those who believe in God; not just any god, but rather the God of Christians and Jews. The advertisements do not say, "A million New Yorkers are good without Allah" or "good without Buddha" or even "good without Ganesha". They could have said, "A million New Yorkers are good without religion" and have been more correct, both politically and in actuality.

Secondly, the question on the posters evokes more than just a general awareness of the existence of atheist groups. Asking a person if they are doing fine without God goes to a much more personal level than perhaps was intended. For a person to answer that question, they would have to think deeply and take a hard look at their own lives. From the comments made by the Big Apple CoR, their intentions seem to be aimed at decided atheists, humanists, and agnostics, rather than serving as an outreach to those who have not made up their minds about whether or not to join a religion; but the posters' question suggest otherwise. These posters force an issue that is not necessary to their cause.

The Big Apple CoR also wants to provide a social base for atheists in the New York metro area. But is that their actual reason? There is no advertising for meetings, clubs, or organizations. There are no catchy one-liners calling for all atheists or even much information about the Big Apple CoR itself, except for a URL at the bottom of the poster. These posters are more passive-aggressive with a hidden agenda. They are failing to accomplish their few goals and instead bringing up a host of new problems that could have been easily avoided. With the option of an easy avoidance, the only conclusion to be drawn is that they meant to create the new issues. The group stated that they expect no substantial backlash for the actual posters but whether they are considering the problems being created may be a different story.

Most atheists dislike the constant haranguing by the religious zealots—the Bible-thumpers, the door-to-door witnesses, and the ones who remind them that they are different. No one likes to be told what to do, especially if it is something they are not inclined to do. Atheists do not want to be bombarded with urges to join churches, temples, or mosques all while being told to repent for their sins; they want to keep religion separate from daily life. Absolutely no prayers in public schools allowed and even the Pledge of Allegiance received some scrutiny for the "under God" clause. But advertisements that push their lack of religion into the faces of five million New Yorkers quietly commuting to work every day is perfectly acceptable. Has the hypocritical line been crossed? If they wanted to provide a social base for New York atheists, the Big Apple CoR could have designed a poster urging the non-religious to join a club or even a non-profit. As for raising awareness, atheism is

not a new subject.

Long before the theory of evolution or scientific reasoning was popular, the lack of belief in any deity existed. Unless a person has been living a reclusive life in a cave or the Amazon jungle, he or she is most likely very aware of the facts and existence of atheism.



Photo courtesy of <http://graphics8.nytimes.com/images/2009/10/16/nyregion/16atheism-cityroom/article-line.jpg>

Posters promoting atheists will be found in New York City subways for a month, starting October 26, 2009.

Tennessee gun laws threaten personal safety

By Will Smith
Staff Writer

Earlier this year, the Tennessee state legislature passed laws expanding the opportunities for handgun owners to carry their guns in public. Handgun owners with valid concealed carry permits may now take their weapons into restaurants and parks, but the ultimate decision as to whether firearms are allowed is left up to the owners/managers of the properties. This is a great step forward for gun rights, common sense, and safety, yet many of you may be stunned with disagreement, so I will try to explain why this is a good development.

Let's start at the beginning. Why do people own guns? Other than hunting, the main reason (assuming you are a law-abiding citizen) is for personal defense. It is usually recognized that having a gun in one's house is an acceptable means of defending oneself, one's family, and one's property against intruders. Yet, obviously, we face the threat of harm not just in our homes, but out in public as well. Carrying permits, whether concealed or open, allows a person to take a handgun with them out into public and greatly improves their ability to defend themselves and others; it makes no sense to say that a person may defend themselves only in their own home, but not in public. The right to self-defense never goes away. Some of you are probably not convinced that we need guns to defend ourselves, and while that is

technically correct, it is likely that an attacker will be armed; therefore, if one is going to have a decent chance of defending themselves, then the best weapon to have is a gun. Practically speaking, when we talk of self-defense abilities, we are talking about guns.

Someone who is carrying a gun will soon or later likely wind up on someone else's private property. The ability to carry guns, whether off the body, concealed, or unconcealed, must be dependent on the permission of the owners of each private piece of property. To be the owner of property is to have control over the property; this control includes the right to make rules for visitors. If the owner of private property decides to forbid visitors to carry guns while on the property, then the guest has an obligation to follow the rule. But there are two related rights competing against the right of the property owner: the right to own a gun and the right to self-defense. The right to own a gun is certainly not the same as the right to carry a gun, but common sense says people own guns for protection, and people need protection outside of their home, including on private property. The right to self-defense is a stronger, more philosophical justification for the right to carry guns overriding the right to determine what will or will not be allowed on private property. As compelling as the legal right to own a gun and the moral (and legal) right to self-defense is, however, neither is strong enough to warrant

placing the right of the gun owner over the right of the property owner. Allowing a gun carrier to ignore the rules of a property owner severely undermines the owner's authority and ownership over his or her property. If a property owner cannot prohibit weapons on their property, then what could they prohibit?

There are very few truly safe places. Whether in our homes, in a parking lot, in a restaurant, on a college campus, or on a secluded jogging trail, there is always the danger that we will be the victims of violence. Many people worry, and understandably so, that if people are allowed to carry guns on their person, then incidents of violence will skyrocket, and therefore that people should not be allowed to carry guns. The reality is that the vast majority of legal gun carriers are responsible gun owners; in fact, many states have generous carrying laws and yet somehow these people aren't involved in shootouts every night. Wouldn't the more responsible thing be to recognize that this danger exists and that people may be safer, individually and in general, if people are allowed to carry guns? People who use guns in criminal acts get much of their power from the knowledge that their victims are unlikely to be armed. If we allow people to carry guns, then the bad guys will not be able to be so sure of their advantage, and will be more likely to think twice before attacking.

Everything I have said so far is in support

of allowing people to carry guns in public. I will admit, however, that there are several types of environments where having a gun ought not to be allowed; for instance, at a bar. An environment involving intoxication and rowdiness is probably not the wisest place to allow people to be armed. The quandary here is that because there may be a higher risk factor for violence at a bar, it may actually make sense to definitely allow on-body carrying (I would prefer someone to use some sort of chemical spray or a collapsible baton since these pose less of a threat to bystanders). Another place where it may be a bad idea to allow people to walk around armed would be in government buildings, especially those that house courtrooms and capitols. In any case, though, it is the right and responsibility of the owner of the property to set the rules. The law should not interfere with the property owner's control over his property. That said, the benefits of allowing people to carry guns—namely, a greater ability to protect oneself—should at least cause property owners to seriously consider allowing guns on their property. One final thought for those of you who may not be convinced that gun owners ought to be able to carry their guns outside of their home: how many people may have lived—and how many people will die—because a person who is trained in the use of a gun was not able to have their gun on their body, ready for use?

Zetland, continued from Page 1

focused more on his ideas about environmental sustainability.

“There is almost no time, ever, in the real world that we’re at actual equilibrium, except usually when we’re dead ... We [economists] tend to have a separation between thought and reality that causes trouble when we go out in the real world, which is maybe why many economics *don’t* go out in the real world. But I do...I spend time on the messy parts, the way politics and economics interact”.

Zetland has traveled to over seventy countries, having spent many of his years between undergraduate and graduate school abroad. He encourages all students to take time off after completing their B.A. in order to gain an important understanding of the real world, so that they will really understand what it is they want to do with their lives. In the coming year, Zetland plans to recommence his travels abroad.

After this general introduction, Zetland went on to talk about his ideas on environmental sustainability.

“Basically, we are completely not just dependent, but grateful and prospering for this bounty of nature. With no air, we would be dead. Without water, we would also be dead,” says Zetland.

“Natural resources are not really a place where we have problems in terms of unsustainable management. The environment is a place where we do have problems of shortage because we have no idea how to regulate it so there is essentially this certain amount of supply and we have too much demand,” says Zetland.

To conclude his discussion, Zetland advises, “Local community solutions are where many differences will be made”. After completing the lecture, Zetland actively engaged his audience by answering a series of questions.

David Zetland was one in a series of economic speakers who have spoken at Rhodes, sponsored by Coke.

Leslie Hewitt in Clough Gallery

By Lizz Glaus
Staff Writer

Photographer Leslie Hewitt’s work challenges the human capacities of memory and time, questing power structures, challenging ways of viewing an image, race, sex, and societal relationships.

By layering different types of images on top of one another to produce a new piece, Hewitt creates an opportunity for both dialogue and social commentary. The photographs in *Riffs on Real Time* consist of what Hewitt calls an informal “snapshot,” a personal image like a family gathering positioned on top of an image that circulates in the public realm, like a magazine page or a book. These are then placed simply on a hardwood floor (occasionally on carpet), creating an image with three concentric frames. According to Hewitt, the project is not so much about the images as it is about who is viewing them.

In the artist’s lecture last Thursday night, Hewitt discussed Alberti’s window and the concept of extended space beyond the frame of an image. The goal of many of Hewitt’s works is to bring her two-dimensional image *into* the space of the viewer by installing images in such a way that they exist in “real space.” In *Riffs on Real Time*, the “real space” created by the layered still-life motif is essentially a stack of windows looking into different sections of memory, commenting on the way we categorize different parts of our world. For example, the difference between a family picnic and *Ebony* magazine is very clear to us, even though they share the same space and time in Hewitt’s photographs.

A lot of Hewitt’s work is dedicated to revealing several perspectives all at once, along with the associative power of the images when viewed by different people. Hewitt is also influenced by Third Cinema, various collaborative projects, and civil rights issues. Many of her images relate to the 1960s and 70s, a period personally important to her because her parents were strong activists in the Civil Rights Movement.

I think our Clough-Hanson Gallery director Hamlett Dobbins might have said it best when he introduced Hewitt on Thursday night and said that her photographs cause the viewer to “completely lose track of time.” Leslie Hewitt’s photographic series *Riffs on Real Time* will be on display in the Clough-Hanson Gallery here at Rhodes until December 7.

Want to work in layout or graphic design?

Want an opportunity to add to your resume?

Want to contribute to the Rhodes newspaper?

**The Sou’Wester is in need of a new
Layout Editor**

**Interested? Come to the newspaper office (basement
of Briggs) Monday November 9th at 5pm.**

Rhodes: ‘The upside of down’

By Patrick Harris
Staff Writer

Rhodes students were given an opportunity to consider some of the most pressing contemporary global issues with the visit on October 12 of Dr. Thomas Homer-Dixon, who delivered a lecture entitled “The Upside of Down: Leveraging Catastrophe for Positive Change”. Homer-Dixon, a Canadian political scientist with extensive writings on the link between environmental stresses and human conflict, spoke at length on what he said were “the struggles mankind is facing now and will face for the remainder of the century”: climate change, energy shortages, and economic instability.

Homer-Dixon stressed the interrelated nature of the major challenges facing humanity, likening them to a group of dump trucks hurtling towards mankind from different angles. He noted the tremendous growth of human capacity to affect the environment, claiming “we are now an actor as big or bigger as nature itself.” Despite (or perhaps because of) the extent and increasing interconnectivity of human activity, Homer-Dixon warned “We have created systems that brittle and subject to cascading failures”, citing the rapid spread of pandemic diseases or the economic fallout of the American mortgage crisis.

Much of Homer-Dixon’s lecture focused on what he referred to, in homage to former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, as “unknown unknowns”, or uncertainty as opposed to manageable risk. Homer-Dixon cited the fate of Canada’s East Coast Fishery as an example of the failure to understand all of the variables involved in the operation of complex systems. In 1992, despite an elaborate scientifically-based regulatory scheme intended to maintain fishing stocks, a combination of overfishing and other environmental factors led to the sudden collapse of the ecosystem, destroying what was once the richest source of fish on the planet. Homer-Dixon compared this debacle to the ongoing economic crisis, noting the role of complex and little-understood financial instruments in the market meltdown. Quoting another expert, he said “The crisis continues because nobody knows what anything is worth.” Homer –Dixon offered his conclusion that because of the spiraling complexity of such devices as credit-default swaps, “there was no accurate way of assessing risk in the system anymore. What people thought was risk became unbounded uncertainty.”

Homer-Dixon also described Earth’s climate as a complex system in which “positive feedback loops” can aggravate certain trends. The melting of Arctic Sea ice, for example, can cause greater absorption of solar radiation by the dark sea water, increasing the overall rate of melting. Homer-Dixon listed the potentially dire consequences of the planet’s ecological trajectory, from catastrophic rises in sea-level to shortages of food and water.

Homer-Dixon offered constructive solutions to these challenges in the later portion of the lecture, noting the propensity for crisis to allow needed fundamental change. Homer-Dixon, who has coined a word for this phenomenon, “catagenesis”, listed practical means to ameliorate environmental and energy crises, such as enhanced geothermal energy and in particular the adoption of an emission-limiting program such as a carbon tax or cap-and-trade scheme. “We need to start paying the price for using the atmosphere as a dumping ground for our carbon.”

More broadly, he expounded on a need for a long-term shift in societal values, from “utilitarian values to moral and existential ones.” Perhaps most controversially, he declared the model of continuous economic growth untenable and promoted a “steady state global economy” that would eventually take its place. According to Homer-Dixon, “We need to figure out how to maintain social peace and freedom in a steady state globally.”

Dr. Jennifer Sciubba, Rhodes professor and Mellon Environmental Studies Fellow, said she hoped that students would take away from the lecture the idea that “big ideas and big thinkers are needed to solve big challenges”, noting that Rhodes students “should be big thinkers themselves”. Sciubba also said the Homer-Dixon’s discussion of values was particularly relevant to the Rhodes community, given its own focus on values in academic life and beyond.

CAMPUS SAFETY

October 15 – 31

- 10/15
4:00 pm: Wrecker service on campus to remove student's car at her request.
10:03 pm: Water leak in Bellingrath reported to Campus Safety. Maintenance notified.
- 10/17
3:20 am: MPD on campus for courtesy patrol.
7:30 pm: Power glitches across campus; maintenance notified. Campus-wide alarm systems reset.
- 10/18
8:47 am: Amro's music on campus, delivering a piano to the ballroom; accessed.
2:17 pm: Abandoned black mongoose BMX type bicycle confiscated; secured in bike closet.
- 10/20
2:00 pm: Homecoming festivities and football game underway.
2:15 pm: Resident of North Parkway notified Campus Safety concerning property of a Rhodes student found in his yard. Property retrieved; Rhodes student notified via e-mail.
3:11 pm: Alcohol violations being reported in Mallory parking lot.
6:00 pm: Homecoming events still active campus wide.
- 10/25
11:53 am: The northeast stairwell emergency door of Barret library was accessed out setting off the alarm; alarm rest.
6:23 pm: Professor called to report that his off campus residence was broken into and his Rhodes laptop had been taken.
- 10/27
12:41 am: Student found passed out in East Village B; ambulance called and student transported for observation.
- 10/28
9:07 am: Accident in the Mallory parking lot; report filed.
6:30 pm: Trouble alarm Bellingrath; maintenance dispatched to reboot system.
- 10/29
5:48 pm: Accident at University and Snowden involving a Rhodes student; no injuries to report; MPD notified to file a city report.
7:30 pm: Alarm in Voorhies/Townsend; cause – pull station; maintenance notified.
8:44 pm: Fire alarm East Village A with fire trucks responding; cause – smoke machine for a Halloween party.
- 10/30
2:26 am: Report of an ill student in Bellingrath; duty ADRL notified; subject transported for medical assistance.
5:47 pm: Report of an off campus accident at Union and McLean involving a Rhodes student. Campus safety received a call from the student's father requesting that campus safety investigate this accident; officer dispatched. Officer report back that there was damage to the vehicle but was drivable.
7:42 pm: Report of an accident at University and North Parkway; officers responded finding Rhodes students were involved. Both MPD and emergency response was requested.
9:04 pm: Noise complaint East Village; officers dispatched; problem resolved.
- 10/31
2:39 pm: Report of vandalism at fraternity houses; complaint stated that there was paintings on the windows; report filed.
2:41 pm: Call from a mother concerned about her student's health, stating that her student had flu like symptoms and may need medical attention; student transported to a medical facility for observation.

pledged Red and Black.

"It isn't important how much people give, what is important is that they give any amount," said Faust.

All of the money raised will go towards making the campus "green," but seniors can choose to donate their gift to a particular area on campus that is not related to this goal.

Seniors are eager to support the Class of 2010's decision.

"Yes, I will participate because I think that going green will be very beneficial to not only this campus, but also to the city of Memphis. If we are the forerunners, maybe we can encourage the city of Memphis to become greener. It is a good idea," said Senior, Crystal D. Moore.

Seniors can pledge until April of 2010 and they have until June of 2011 to complete the gifts. For more information, contact Whitney Faust (fauwl) or the Senior Gift Coordinator, Richard Sewell (sewri).

Pink Party raises breast cancer awareness

By Patrick Harris

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and Rhodes is doing its part in the fight against the disease with the annual Pink Party, sponsored by the Office of Residence Life on behalf of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. A workgroup from ResLife will host the fundraiser in the Lynx Lair on Wednesday, October 28, from 5 to 7 PM, with a one-dollar raffle as well as a variety of baked goods for purchase.

Allie Garris, a Rhodes senior involved in planning the event, said that the Pink Party was meant to raise awareness of the disease in addition to money. Wednesday marks the fourth annual such event; in the past the Pink Party was purely intended to raise awareness but since last year has included a fundraising element. While Garris said there was no particular monetary goal for the fundraiser, she said she hoped to surpass last year's tally of about \$200. Garris said that an iPod would be among the raffle prizes at the Party in addition to an as-yet-unnamed large prize, as well as various baked goods which will also be on sale. "All the money we take in goes to the Susan Komen Foundation", she said.

Garris was hopeful for high turnout at this year's event. "Because we have it at the Lair at that time of night, it generates a lot of people coming in. We hope people will be willing to help out."

Wizard of Oz
The Orpheum
Nov 7-8

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Java Cabana: Midtown's alternative coffee shop

Jake Groves
Staff Writer

Caffeine-addicts looking for their fix need to go no further than Rhodes' Middle Ground coffee shop. However, those looking to escape Starbucks' corporate banality might want to try the Cooper-Young district's Java Cabana. Java Cabana rests on the "East Side" of Cooper Street just past Casa Grill and Goner Records. Nestled in the heart of the Cooper-Young district, it draws on the area's eccentric spirit while providing its own unique blend of coffee, atmosphere and music.

Java Cabana possesses all of the coffee-shop tangibles. The menu boasts an array of different coffee beverages as well as several tea drinks and herbal alternatives. In terms of food, Java's specialty is its breakfast menu, but it also has a variety of lunch-time treats and "after-dark munchies" as well. Those more inclined to

sugary treats need not shy away either for they offer plenty of homemade sweets to accompany one's coffee of choice.

Java's eccentric atmosphere has been a draw for customers ever since its inception in 1992. Its original owner, Tommy Foster, used to offer weddings a la The King where Foster presided over ceremonies, backed by an Elvis impersonator and musical accompaniment. Now, under the care of capable proprietor Mary Burns, Java has taken on a more "chill" air, receptive to all patrons.

Like many coffee shops, Java Cabana doubles as a temporary art exhibit, displaying local artists' works on its walls. This supports the art community while also providing interesting and ever-changing scenery. Several permanent fixtures, such as old shop signs and a random assortment of furniture, create a sense of familiarity amidst the revolving artwork display.

There is no shortage of musical activities at the Java Cabana either. On at least three nights a week, one can hear the sound of acoustic music echoing down an otherwise quiet Cooper street. Thursday's Open Mike Night, emceed by local musician and Java devotee Mike Joyner, is a good opportunity for all of the nascent singer/songwriters of Memphis to showcase their work. Also on Thursdays, depending on who shows up, one can expect to hear original poetry and see any number of bizarre acts that defy explanation.

Coffee shops have become so widespread that it is hard to find a unique one: a formula has been established and most owners are loath to stray from it. However, the spirit of the Java Cabana contradicts this trend. It invites those weary of today's corporate rigmarole to rejuvenate in the pungent aroma of its coffee.

The Office wedding and other great TV couples

By Janie Logan

Arts & Entertainment Co-Editor

A few weeks ago, *The Office* cordially invited us to the wedding of Jim Halpert & Pam Beesly. Of all the romantic relationships that have been portrayed on television, few are as genuine or as full of love as the one between the adorable salesman and the soft-spoken receptionist. The phrase "made for each other," which is perhaps overused, definitely applies to Jim and Pam.

Currently in its sixth season on NBC, *The Office* has been building to this point from the beginning. Remembering the sweet journey that brought Jim and Pam to getting married, the groom himself put it best in his rehearsal dinner speech: "Four years ago, I was just a guy, who had a crush on a girl, who had a boyfriend. And I had to do the hardest thing that I've ever had to do, which was just to wait. Don't get me wrong—I flirted with her. For a really long time, that's all I had. Little moments with a girl who saw me as a friend. And, a lot of people told me I was crazy to wait this long for a date with a girl I work with, but I think, even then I knew that...I was waiting for my wife."



Photo courtesy of NBC Universal

John Krasinski and Jenna Fischer go together like PB&J as the *The Office's* cute couple.

In thinking back over the relationship between Jim and Pam, I started to make a mental list of the best television couples. Then I wrote the list down. Here it is:

Eric and Tami Taylor, played by Kyle Chandler and Connie Britton, *Friday Night Lights*. In a show so real that it transcends television, these two have a marriage that is a true partnership. Sure, they have arguments and struggles—over money, over raising their teenage daughter, over problems at work—but you never doubt that they will get through it together, with honesty and love. You need only watch the Season 1 finale, "State" to understand why the Taylors are included on this list.

Buffy Summers and Angel, played by Sarah Michelle Gellar and David Boreanaz, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. They were a human/vampire couple before it was cool to be a human/vampire couple. In fact, they resisted their relationship until they were powerless to stop it. She was the Slayer, the Chosen One whose life mission was to fight the forces of evil, and he was one such force of evil. But he had been cursed with a soul. He was a vampire tormented by all his monstrous acts, seeking redemption by helping those in need. Buffy and Angel faced demons and apocalypses on a daily basis, and that was the easy stuff for them. The obstacles: he lost his soul, she had to send him to a hell dimension, he moved away because he could never give her a normal life, she died for a few months... Viewers saw the depth of their love by how much pain they felt over each other, but what's more—viewers saw their love was eternal because, in the midst of their messed up lives, being together brought them the greatest happiness they had ever known, or ever would know.

Sydney Bristow and Michael Vaughn, played by Jennifer Garner and Michael Vartan, *Alias*. When a double agent falls in love with her CIA handler, things are never going to be easy. It took more than a year of unresolved sexual tension for these spies to finally come together. They had the cutest relationship ever, only to have their joy stolen away by an enemy terrorist organization. Don't you just hate

it when that happens?! Sydney was abducted, and her death was faked. Two years later, she awakened with no memory of what happened to her, expecting to return to the comforting embrace of her boyfriend, only to find that Vaughn had married someone else in her absence. Of course, his wife turned out to be a traitor to America, and they killed her. When Sydney and Vaughn did resume their relationship, they were a more world-weary couple with all their new baggage, but they did not allow it to harden them. Their love was as strong as ever, and they went on to find peace in marriage and in a son and daughter.

Lorelai Gilmore and Luke Danes, played by Lauren Graham and Scott Patterson, *Gilmore Girls*. For the first four seasons of this show, the timing was never right for them. One would have feelings for the other, one would be in a relationship with someone else, one would do something that created major tension in their friendship. It took a self-help book and decisive action to make them wake up and realize that they were in love. Annoying plot contrivances in later seasons drove them apart for a little while, but the whole world could see that the Luke and Lorelai relationship would last when they were eventually reunited.

Veronica Mars and Logan Echolls, played by Kristen Bell and Jason Dohring, *Veronica Mars*. They hated each other at first, but somehow, in spite of themselves, they became friends and developed an undeniable attraction. Logan could be immature and overprotective, and Veronica had some serious trust issues. They still make this list because they brought out the best in each other, and their love was strong enough to keep them connected even when they were broken up. They have some fundamental character flaws that keep them apart, but they're still young and have the capacity to change. The show has been cancelled for a couple of years now, but fans continue to hold out hope that in the continuing fictional world, these two will end up together.

Temperance "Bones" Brennan and Seeley Booth, played by Emily Deschanel and David Boreanaz, *Bones*. The non-couple couple of the list because it's only a matter of time before they get together and live happily ever after. Theirs is a partnership in which completely opposite personalities complement

each other to make an effective crime-solving team. She's a brilliant forensic anthropologist who can tell you everything about a set of bones but lacks social skills with people who are **alive**. He's an alpha male FBI agent with an innate talent at reading people. Booth and Bones have grown so much as human beings because of their work together. They have risked their lives numerous times to save the other, and demonstrated that they value their partnership more than anything. They might not be in a romantic relationship (**yet!**), but their chemistry is magical, and their love is no less than if they were an actual couple.

Chandler Bing and Monica Gellar, played by Matthew Perry and Courtney Cox Arquette, *Friends*. Ross and Rachel are considered to be the great classic couple in all of sitcom history, possibly in all of television history. Over the course of 10 seasons, those two were either on, off, or in a transition period. But in a far more nuanced storyline, Monica and Chandler became the stable couple of the show. A woman with OCD and a man with a fear of commitment, who were never more than friends, hooked up at a wedding and never looked back.

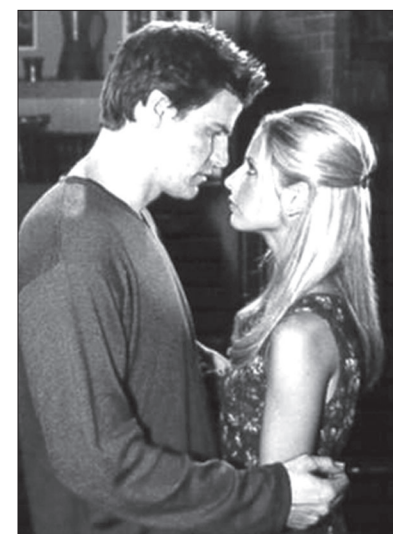


Photo courtesy of Warner Bros.

David Boreanaz and Sarah Michelle Gellar pull at viewers' emotions with their depiction of Angel, a vampire, and Buffy, the Vampire Slayer.

Submit your work to The Southwestern Review

Rhodes' literary journal is now accepting poetry, fiction and visual art submissions from all Rhodes students. Please email all creative work to comjl@rhodes.edu

Ck's Place of Prayer

Max Gertz

Stubbing and shuffling, I fell through the glass door
into the diner's cathedral,
towards the hash potatoes and chocolate milk.
With my intoxicated jig I made my way to the holy bench.
"Coffee" I said.
Sister Over Wait began her work.

I drank greedily when the coffee came.
the saltine crackers, each a Eucharist.
They were sticky in my throat,
and coffee, not saliva washed them down.

But too much coffee filled my stomach.
Too many crackers passed through my lips,
and nothing could overcome the effects of too much whiskey.
Too many boiled eggs smelled like sulfur,
and made my head spin
and my stomach do cartwheels.

I knelt on the cold tile,
each word spouted, stinging.
Tears flowed, and my body shook.
"Please, God."

I composed myself.
I downed the rest of my coffee, paid
and stumbled back through that glass door.

12th Annual Indie Memphis Film Festival

By **Lizz Glaus**
Staff Writer

Every fall, the Indie Memphis Film Festival features documentaries, narrative features, and "global lens" features (films from foreign countries that tend to focus on pertinent global issues) as well as shorts, animated films, and even children's movies.

The highlight of my festival experience was a midnight screening of the thriller *Paranormal Activity*. I was nearly scared to death, and I still have trouble falling asleep. The film features amateur footage shot as a couple attempts to catch whatever or whoever is haunting them; the story is full of shocking twists and kept viewers on the edge of their seats.

Once I recovered from demonic haunting, I watched Kris Swanberg's *It Was Great, But I Was Ready to Come Home* a feature intended to feel like a documentary following two best friends on a backpacking trip in Costa Rica. The film was lackluster to say the least. I've been on grocery runs more exciting, and I think director-star Swanberg would have been better off filming an *actual* documentary with her real best friend in Costa Rica, rather than another actress she had just met.

Micah Stansell's short film *Between You and Me* accompanied the backpacking excursion of disappointment. Ah, if only Stansell's film had been the feature-length, and Swanberg's the short. *Between You and Me* painted a triptych-split-screen portrait of interpersonal relationships; the kind involving mailmen, librarians, waitresses and the like—the kind that evol-

ing technology is gradually pushing into the remote past. It made me want to go out and talk to real people. A+, Micah Stansell.

After that, I encountered a manic-depressive, paranoid schizophrenic gentleman named Charles in *Invisible Girlfriend*. Charles is dating Joanie, who is in fact a reincarnation of the one and only Joan of Arc. More specifically, I think, Joanie is the Joan of Arc statue in the French quarter of New Orleans, and Charles must journey across Louisiana (on a big red bicycle) to find her. You see, Joanie promised Charles that she would appear in the form of a flesh-and-blood woman, and the documentary (*documentary*, mind you, this is real) follows his active search for such a woman. Contrary to my expectations, the film was not crazy, and actually one of my favorites in the festival. Directors David Redmon and Ashley Saibon captured Charles' character and quest beautifully, creating a touching narrative, leaving me wishing Charles and Joanie only the best in the future.

Tate English' *The Ballad of Friday and June* was a genuine and adorable glimpse of the unconditional nature of love between a girl and her pet. Matthew Lawrence's *Shoobox Redhead* proved to be a quirky and endearing look at a young man's struggles as he hurls himself back into the dating scene, and Liliana Greenfield-Sanders *Adelaide* turned an uncomfortable relationship between a hypochondriac and her pharmacist into a love story.

Adrian Ross Munro's *Cigarettes Hurt Babies* was perhaps one of my favorite

shorts. The film follows a man trying to turn his horrible day around. Rhett Somers' *True Beauty This Night* was difficult to follow as it jumped back and forth between two consecutive nights, but it had its merits as an intriguing quest for love in unusual circumstances. Ruckus Skye's *Hungry For Love*, on the other hand, proved to be an off-putting tale of a 70-year-old woman's search for connections between sex and her favorite foods.

I also attended a screening of some "hometown" shorts shot in Memphis, or at least by local filmmakers. Alfred AVX's *An Android Named Thelma*, although it only lasted about 45 seconds, was a rather beautiful animation reminiscent of Tim Burton's work. Jonathan Thomason's *The Pizzeria* was exactly what it sounds like—a simple and effortless tale of two goofy bus boys at Garibaldi's Pizzeria. B. Siler's *The Non-Invasion* was nearly 40 minutes long, and I found it exhausting and uninteresting.

The grand finale of the hometown series was a pair of slasher films. The first, Charles Metz and Craig Maners' *Project D* was a largely failed attempt at psychological horror. It was a scary movie about making a scary movie, wherein the filmmakers became the victims and villains in their own plot. Although well equipped with plenty of red dye and corn syrup, I found the film to be disappointingly predictable. Brian Elkin's *Night* however was simple, to the point, and totally disgusting. I loved it.

THIS WEEK IN ENTERTAINMENT

New Movie Releases:

11/609

The Box

Push: Based on the Novel PUSH by Sapphire

The Men Who Stare at Goats

Disney's A Christmas Carol

Television Highlights

(11/4-11/10):

America's Next Top Model
Wednesday, 7 pm, The CW.

Modern Family
Wednesday, 8 pm, ABC.

FlashForward
Thursday, 7 pm, ABC.

The Office
Thursday, 8 pm, NBC. Jim and Pam double date with Michael and Pam's mom.

30 Rock
Thursday, 8:30 pm, NBC. Brian Williams guest stars.

Ugly Betty
Friday, 8 pm, ABC.

Family Guy
Sunday, 7-8:30 pm, FOX. 2 new episodes, plus an "almost live" musical and comedy sketch show featuring Seth MacFarlane and Alex Borstein.

Mad Men
Sunday, 9 pm, AMC. Season 3 finale.

How I Met Your Mother
Monday, 7 pm, CBS. Cameo from *Growing Pains'* Alan Thicke.

Gossip Girl
Monday, 8 pm, The CW. Featuring a song by Leighton Meester and Robin Thicke.

CSI: Miami
Monday, 9 pm, CBS. Crossover with *CSI's* Laurence Fishburne.

V
Tuesday, 7 pm, ABC. Second episode of the new series about an alien race that visits Earth, starring *Firefly's* Morena Baccarin and *Lost's* Elizabeth Mitchell.

So You Think You Can Dance
Tuesday, 7 pm, FOX. Top 16 dancers perform.

Sons of Anarchy,
Tuesday, 9 pm, FX.

Sports help celebrate homecoming

Field Hockey Win vs. DePauw

By Chelsea McLeod

The Lynx bounced back from a weekend in Virginia to secure a 2-0 victory over Depauw. In their first regular season game against DePauw several weeks ago, the Lynx fell in penalty strokes after two scoreless double overtime periods. On Friday, the Lynx started off strong with Lindsey Gurovich pacing the offensive line with both a goal, from a wide shot from Chelsea McLeod, and an assist just 8 minutes into play that was knocked in by Sarah Kennedy. Charlie Wagner controlled the middle of the field with tenacity and precision, keeping the ball in the Lynx offensive half for a majority of both halves.

Rhodes proceeded to beat Sewanee on Sunday, adding a 2-1 win to their record. After Sewanee's goal—just a few minutes into play—Chelsea McLeod scored the Lynx first goal, assisted by Charlie Wagner, Wagner followed with one of her own later in the first half. Kristen Lee and Sara Sanders anchored the Lynx defense and limited Sewanee's shots on goal to just 3, and the second half remained scoreless. Rhodes continues 10-4, 6-1 in SCAC, and will battle their SCAC rival Centre for the regular season title in Danville this Friday at 7 p.m.

Women's Cross Country

By William Hunt

The Women's Cross Country Team finished the SCAC Cross Country Conference Championship with a narrow loss to DePauw. The Championship was held on October 31st in the Georgia International Horse Park where a cold, driving rainstorm ensured that only the toughest competitors would thrive; while DePauw and Rhodes scored 33 and 35 points, third place Hendrix managed only 82. Sophomore Taylor Stephens lead the Lady Lynx, finishing fourth overall with a time of 23:37. Senior Cybil Covic, Junior Kelsey Dudziak, and Senior Melissa Defabrizio won sixth, seventh, and eighth place respectively, with times of 23:46, 23:59, and 24:09. Senior Anna Johnson finished in 24:24 for tenth place, Junior Sandy Henin ran 24:57 for fourteenth, and Freshman Maddie Harrigan rounded out the Lady Lynx top seven scorers with a 25:44 for twenty-seventh place. These seven Lynx runners will continue racing for Rhodes in the Regional Championship in Greensboro, North Carolina, on November 14th. A first or second place victory there gives the Lynx a chance to compete in the D-III National Championship one week later where the Women's team eagerly anticipates a rematch with DePauw.

Top teams in the NFL

By Gordon Chadwick

If the season ended today, these would be the four best teams in the league.

The NFC:

New Orleans Saints – The Saints remained undefeated following their Monday Night victory over the Atlanta Falcons. They also reached a nice three game stretch in their schedule against the Panthers, Rams and Buccaneers before they face the Patriots. Quarterback Drew Brees has a 107.6 quarterback rating while throwing for 16 touchdowns and over 2000 yards. It would not be surprising to see the Patriots head into New Orleans to play an undefeated team.

Minnesota Vikings – This past week, Fox Sports had a "Favre Cam" available online that followed Brett Favre for an entire game. However, the Vikings can play just as well without his influence with a backfield featuring Adrian Peterson. On defense the Vikings sacked opposing quarterbacks 31 times and led by Jared Allen (who has 10.5 sacks on the year), the Vikings have one of the most potent pass rushes in the league. Though I'm no fan of the Brett Favre circus I have to give him credit for the way he has played this year. He may just be the final piece of the puzzle for this excellent team.

Best of the rest: Dallas Cowboys, Philadelphia Eagles

AFC:

Indianapolis Colts – As usual, the Colts are looking excellent to begin the year. Peyton Manning is at right near the top of every passing category with a QB rating of 109.3(2nd), 318.1 yard per game (1st) and 15 touchdowns(T-2nd). The defense has also been great, allowing a league leading 13.0 points a game. The Colts' only problem is their running game which hasn't provided much help for Manning all year. It is averaging the third fewest yards per game in league and that could prove to be the Colts Achilles Heel. Despite this one weakness, the Colts look like the best team in the AFC. But the toughest part of the Colts' schedule lies ahead. In the next six weeks, the Colts will face the Texans twice, the Ravens, Patriots and Broncos.

Denver Broncos – The Broncos finally lost this week at the hands of the Baltimore Ravens 30-7. Despite that setback, the Broncos still have a great defense, allowing the fewest yards per game in the league. That unit was led by top tackler D.J. Williams and sack machine Elvis Dumervil, who has 10 sacks through 7 games (on pace to break Michael Strahan's gift sake assisted single season sack record of 22.5). Kyle Orton turned in his worst game of the year against the tough Ravens defense. Even so, the Bronco's offense is a middle of the pack contributor as they are 7th in the AFC in both rushing and passing statistics.

Best of the rest: New England Patriots, Pittsburgh Steelers, Cincinnati Bengals

Limbaugh black balled from NFL

By Andrew Mullins-Williams

Two weeks ago, talk-show-mega-host Rush Limbaugh attempted to buy the struggling St. Louis Rams. His involvement was supposed to be that of a minor investor, as he was part of a bidding group headed by Dave Checketts, (chairman of SCP Worldwide and the owner of the St Louis Blues hockey team). However, on October 15, Checketts made the announcement that Limbaugh was going to be dropped from the bidding team.

The move was applauded by the liberal voice in America and condemned by those with more conservative views. The Rev. Al Sharpton said, "It is a moral victory for all Americans—especially the players that have been unfairly castigated by Rush Limbaugh. This decision will also uphold the unifying standards of

major sports

In response, Limbaugh offered his views on the matter in a statement on his talk radio show. "What is happening to the National Football League, what is about to happen to it, has already happened to Wall Street, has already happened to the automobile business," he said. He also went to criticize those who believed that he shouldn't be able to purchase the Rams by noting that it was a clear indication of "Obama's America on full display."

Now this is a sports column and I will try to avoid a lot of the political backlash that both liberals and conservatives are alluding to. However, it is impossible to talk about the impact of this event without politics coming into play in some fashion.

With that said, the main reason that the NFL blocked Limbaugh from purchasing the Rams is due to previous controversial and potentially racist comments directed at African Americans and the NFL as a whole. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell issued a statement on the matter by saying, "divisive comments are not what the NFL is all about," he then said, "I've said many times before, we're all held to a high standard here. I would not want to see those comments coming from people who are in a responsible position in the NFL—absolutely not."

For those who are aware of Rush Limbaugh's radio show, controversial comments are what he is about. Regardless of how people view his show, at the end of the day, he is an entertainer. Who knows if he truly believes every word that comes out of his mouth, but he was certainly aware of the possible backlash of buying an NFL team. According to Limbaugh, he specifically asked Checketts (the leading partner of the deal) if he was aware of the potential consequences and Checketts responded, "We wouldn't have approached you if we hadn't taken care of that." Therefore, it

was clearly not Limbaugh's intention to make a big political spectacle when trying to buy the Rams. However, once word leaked that he was one of the potential investors, the backlash that Limbaugh was well aware of, came down upon him.

However, isn't free speech one of the most important values we hold in America?

Why should Limbaugh be banned from purchasing a team simply over comments he has made over the years? Certainly moral fiber is not in question because the league shrugs off DUIs and even convicted felons. The real reason behind the sacking of Limbaugh is money related. Checketts, along with many other owners within the NFL, realized that having Limbaugh on board would be a poor financial decision. It does not have so much to do with politics, but more so with money. In fact, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, NFL owners gave \$1,458,946 to Republicans since Jan. 1, 2007 and only \$419,042 to Democrats. This helps us understand that it was not only the liberal democrats and media that were protesting the sale of the Rams, but also conservative NFL team owners.

Even so, Limbaugh does have a point that both local and national media outlets have condemned his actions and that the nation as a whole is leaning away from conservatism. However, that is not the reason that NFL made a statement concerning Limbaugh. The bottom line is that people must deal with the ramifications of their words. It is our right as Americans to say what we believe, but the comments from individuals with power are not immune from ramifications. Limbaugh has said he has lost nothing from this incident and from his view on top of the radio entertainment world; he most likely has gained much.

Unfortunately for the Rams, they seem to need a lot more than Limbaugh right now.



Photo courtesy of AP Photo/Rob Carr

Rush Limbaugh was blocked from a deal allowing him to purchase the St. Louis Rams.